



Code of Conduct of the German Political Science Association (DVPW)

The German Political Science Association (DVPW) is committed to fostering an inclusive, respectful and non-discriminatory environment for all members and participants in DVPW events – regardless of gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, physical appearance, body size, ethnic origin, nationality, religion, or belief (or the absence thereof).

All participants, speakers, organisers, and volunteers at DVPW events – whether in person or online – are obliged to observe these principles at all times. Harassment, discrimination, or any form of inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated in any spaces or formats provided by the DVPW. This includes academic presentations, panel discussions, breaks, evening events, and digital communication spaces (e.g. mailing lists, social media, and other online platforms).

Expected behaviour

All participants are expected to:

- treat others with respect and professionalism,
- respect personal boundaries – both verbal and physical,
- avoid language and behaviour that could be perceived as discriminatory, demeaning or harassing,
- contribute to a safe and supportive environment and, where necessary, intervene or seek support.

Unacceptable behaviour

Harassment or discriminatory behaviour may include, amongst other things (this list is not exhaustive):

- intimidation, harassment, or stalking,
- unwanted filming, photography, or recording,
- repeated or persistent disruption of presentations, or discussions,
- inappropriate or unwanted physical contact,
- sexualised language, imagery, or jokes,
- offensive, derogatory, or discriminatory remarks relating to identity, origin, or personal characteristics.

Reporting Incidents and Support

If you are personally affected by a breach of this Code of Conduct, witness an incident, or feel uncomfortable or unsafe for any reason, please contact a member of the local organising team. Reports will be handled sensitively, confidentially and in the best interests of those involved.

We encourage all participants to be vigilant, to offer support and to report situations where people appear to be in distress or where inappropriate behaviour is observed. Even seemingly minor observations can help to prevent larger problems.

Protection against Disadvantage

The DVPW does not tolerate any form of discrimination or disadvantage against individuals who report an incident in good faith or who cooperate in a clarification or investigation.

We thank you for your contribution to a collegial, respectful and productive working environment for all participants.

Adopted by the DVPW Executive Committee on 8 May 2026 on the recommendation of the DVPW Council.